THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE I

"In Space, No One Can Hear You Play the Flute"

WRITTEN BY
MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY
DON ELLIS AGUILLO

THE UNIVERSE IS A COLD AND LONELY PLACE...

BUT NO PLACE SEEMS COLDER AND LONELIER AT THE MOMENT THAN THE CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS OF THE STARSHIP ENTERPRISE.

CAPTAIN JEAN-LUC PICARD OF THE USS ENTERPRISE PLAYS A MOURNFUL TUNE ON A FLUTE THAT BELONGED TO ANOTHER MAN WHO WAS ALSO HIM.
WHO AM I REALLY? I AM PICARD, BUT I AM ALSO KAMIN. AS KAMIN I KNOW THE JOYS OF FATHERHOOD AND MARRIAGE-

-WHICH MAKES THE LOSS OF MY OTHER LIFE EVEN MORE DEVASTATING.

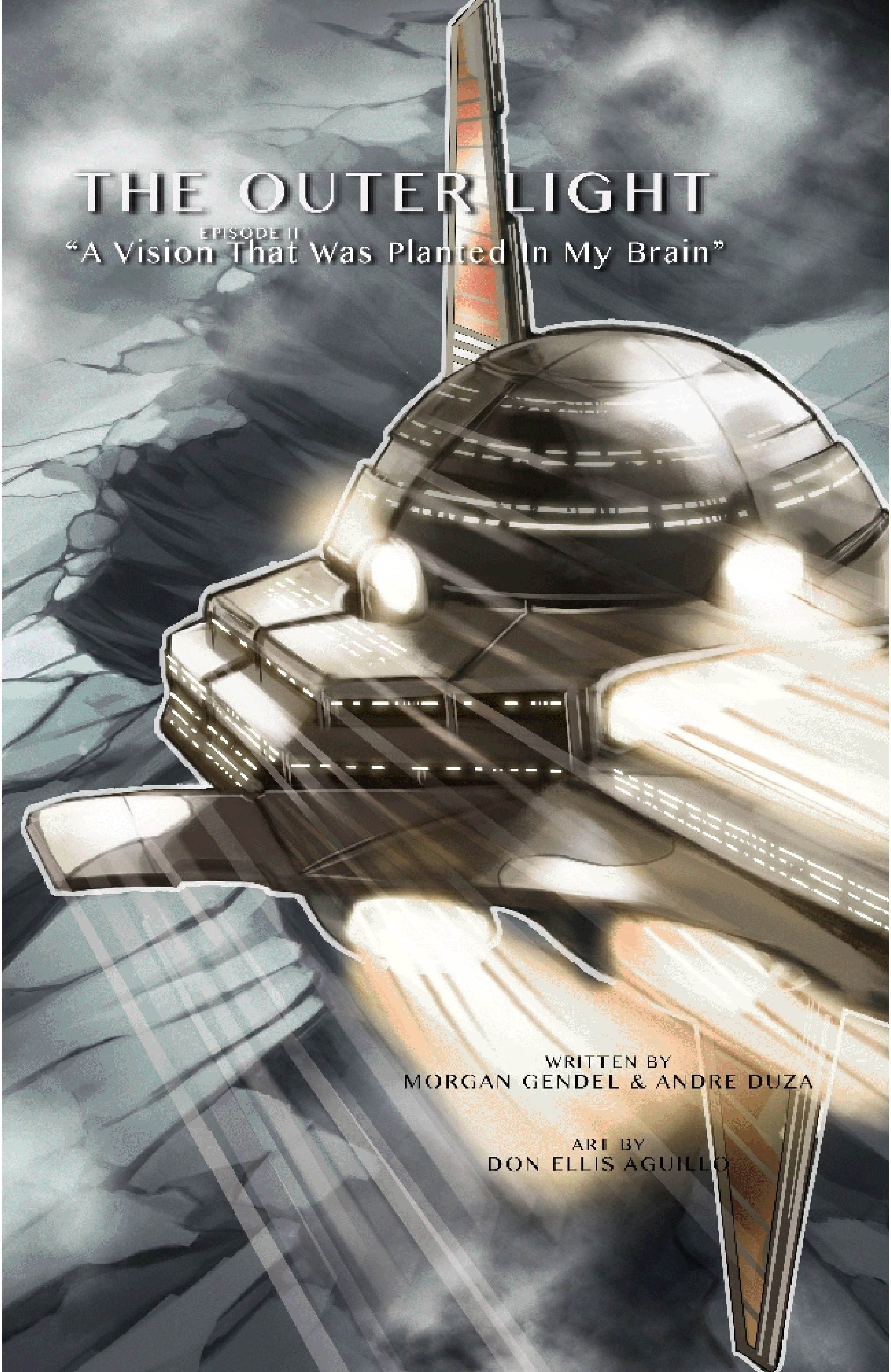
TIME FOR BED. EACH NIGHT THE SAME. I WANT DESPERATELY TO DREAM I'M BACK ON KATAAN WITH ELINE AND MERIBOR.

AROUND HIS NECK, SOMETHING NO ONE ELSE SEES: THE KATAAN INSIGNIA HE HAD FABRICATED IN THE REPLICATOR.

THIS, PLUS HIS FLUTE AND HIS MEMORIES, ARE ALL THAT IS LEFT OF KATAAN-

-OR ARE THEY?

ON DECK...
COMMANDER I'VE DETECTED A REPEATING BEACON EMANATING FROM THIS NEARBY M-CLASS PLANET.
BRING US INTO VISUAL RANGE AND PUT IT ON SCREEN.
A FAMILIAR SPACE VESSEL...
BUT THIS ONE HOLDS PASSENGERS...
I THINK I'D BETTER ALERT THE CAPTAIN.
TO BE CONTINUED..


THE OUTER LIGHT
EPISODE II
"A Vision That Was Planted In My Brain"
WRITTEN BY
MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA
ART BY
DON ELLIS AGUILLO

THE VESSEL THAT YOU SPEAK OF CRASH-LANDED HERE THREE SUN-CYCLES AGO--

--OUR RESCUE TEAM FOUND THE CREW OF SCIENTISTS STILL LOCKED IN THEIR HYPERSLEEP CHAMBERS.

SO YOU'VE CONFIRMED THAT THIS SHIP IS FROM THE PLANET KATAAN?

YES. THE SHIP HAD BEEN ADRIFT FOR NEARLY 1000 YEARS AS IT SEARCHED FOR A HABITABLE PLANET.

I'D LIKE TO MEET THOSE SCIENTISTS.

A CHANCE TO SEE A CIVILIZATION LONG DEAD..

..YET STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE IN THE MIND OF JEAN-LUC PICARD.

CAPTAIN-

-WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS PLANET, AND FURTHERMORE -

-YOUR CONCERN IS DULY NOTED, NUMBER ONE. AND OVERRULED.

ENERGIZE!

PICARD BEAMS DOWN AHEAD OF HIS AWAY TEAM...

CAPTAIN. WE APPRECIATE YOUR VISIT. OUR DELEGATION OF SCIENTISTS IS EAGER TO MEET WITH YOU.

OUR APOLOGIES-

-GOVERNOR MAREK'S PEOPLE SET UP THIS EMERGENCY CORRIDOR AFTER AN EXPLOSION AT ONE OF THEIR DURILLIUM MINES.

DURILLIUM, PRIZED FOR ITS MOLECULAR FLEXIBILITY, REFINED AS AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IN REPLICATORS. BUT WHEN ITS NATURAL VISCOUS STATE COMBINES WITH OXYGEN UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS IT BECOMES TOXIC AND VOLATILE.

THAT'S A FINE EXAMPLE OF *IRON-WEAVING* YOU HAVE THERE.

I THINK THERE'S A *LOT* I'M GOING TO NEED TO TELL YOU.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IRON-WEAVING?

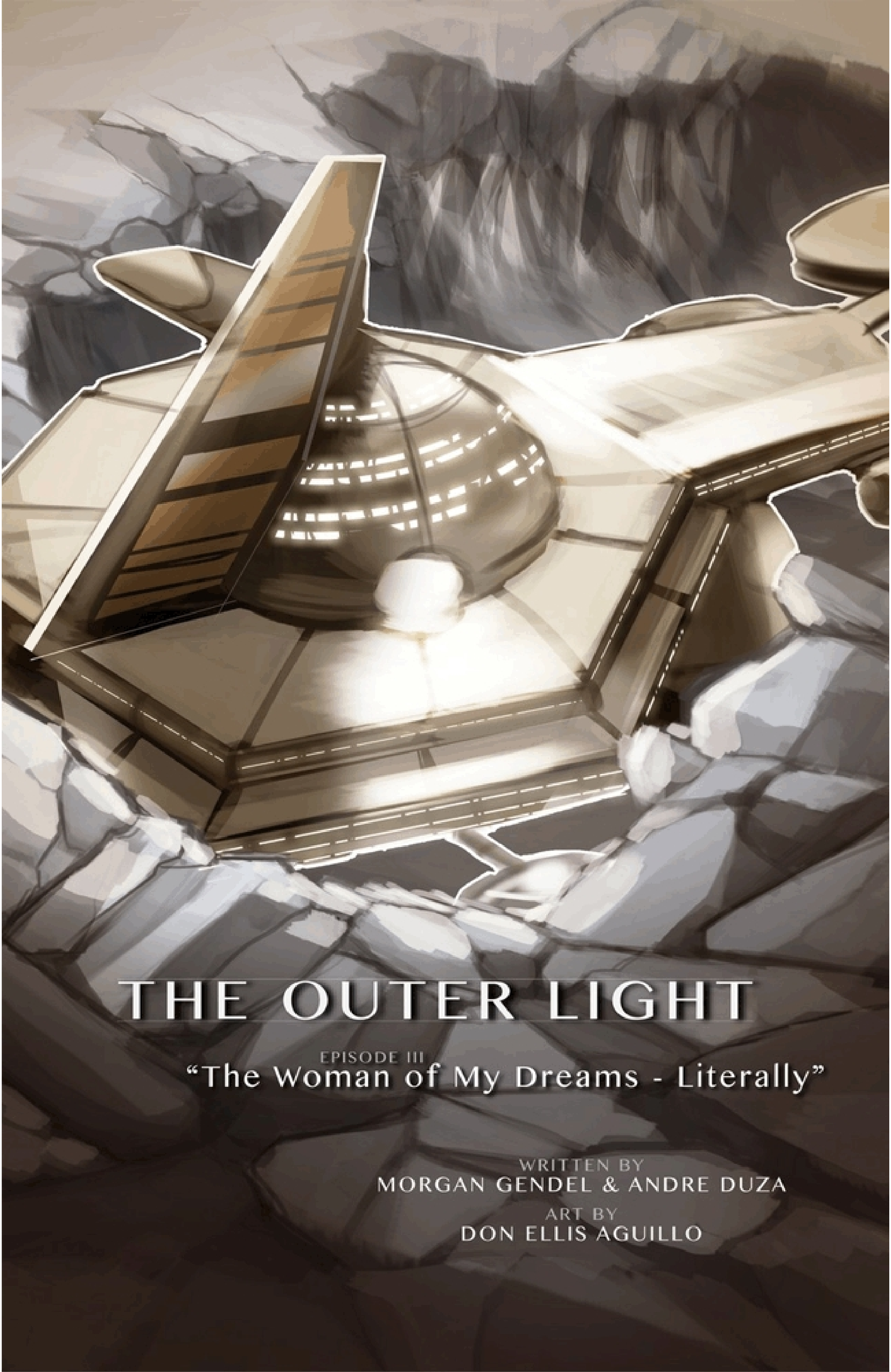
CAPTAIN PICARD—

SKIFFLEFFF

—MEET THE REMAINING LIVING SCIENTISTS OF OUR *KATAAN SURIVAL TEAM.*

BUT PICARD HAS EYES FOR ONLY ONE OF THESE SURVIVORS. THE ONE HE WAS MARRIED TO FOR 30 YEARS AS KAMIN...

TO BE CONTINUED..


THE OUTER LIGHT
EPISODE III
"The Woman of My Dreams - Literally"
WRITTEN BY
MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA
ART BY
DON ELLIS AGUILLO

CAPTAIN PICARD...IS EVERYTHING OKAY?

NO. I'M SORRY. IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, DOCTOR.

NO MISTAKING IT - THIS SCIENTIST IS ELINE, PICARD'S WIFE IN HIS LIFE ON THE PLANET KATAAN!

AND I SEE YOU'VE MET MY HUSBAND, LUMIEN.

LIKE PICARD SAID. A LOT TO EXPLAIN...

PICARD TELLS ALL ABOUT THE PROBE AND BEING KAMIN...

THAT'S WHY YOU COMMENTED ON MY ORNAMENTAL IRON WEAVE. IT WAS CREATED 50 YEARS BEFORE OUR DESTRUCTION -

-THAT WAS THE PERIOD WE CHOSE FOR THE ***MEMORY DREAM*** CREATED BY THE SURVIVAL TEAM YOU SEE BEFORE YOU.

IT WAS A SIMPLER TIME ON KATAAN.

WHAT YOU COULDN'T KNOW IS THAT AFTER WE CREATED THE NUCLEONIC MIND-LOCK USING OUR IMAGES, WE ALSO COMPLETED AN ALTERNATE PLAN - TO LAUNCH OUR TEAM INTO SPACE. RIGHT BEFORE OUR PLANET WAS ANNIHILATER

FORGIVE ME. HOW FOOLISH OF ME TO FORGET..YOU ALMOST LOST YOUR ***ENTIRE*** CIVILIZATION.

IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'D LIKE TO BE SHOWN TO MY QUARTERS, SO I CAN REPORT BACK TO MY SHIP

PICARD'S PLACID BEARING HAS BEEN CRACKED...

KRAKKKKOOOOOOOOOM

CRASHH

KRAKKKKKOOOOMMM

AN IMAGINED LIFE AND A REAL LIFE, COLLIDING...

I'M ASKING YOU TO HELP US, CAPTAIN. THESE...INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN OCCURRING FAR TOO OFTEN.

LATER, IN GOVERNOR MAREK'S OFFICE

YOU'LL BE ASSISTED BY TWO OF THE VISITING SCIENTISTS.

BEEEEEP

AH...HERE THEY ARE NOW.

WELL.

THE THREE OF US CERTAINLY KNOW ABOUT LOSING A CIVILIZATION.

OF COURSE WE'LL HELP

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE IV

"Fixing a Hole"

WRITTEN BY

MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY

DON ELLIS AGUILLO

PICARD, WITH ELINE AND HER HUSBAND LUMIEN, OBSERVE THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF THE UNSTABLE DURILLIUM...

THE ENGINEERS ON THE ENTERPRISE COBBLED THIS TOGETHER TO HELP YOU STABILIZE THE DURILLIUM.

WE'RE MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU, CAPTAIN. IT'S OUR ONLY HOPE FOR REPAIRING OUR SHIP AND LEAVING THIS PLANET.

BUT WHERE WILL YOU GO? KATAAN WAS DESTROYED A THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

WE'LL FIGURE THAT OUT. UNLESS YOU HAVE AN IDEA?

NOT AT THE MOMENT.

IDEA? PICARD, AS KAMIN, HAS ALREADY LIVED THAT IDEA. BUT NOW IS NOT THE TIME...

WORK TO BE DONE. BUT WHERE ARE ALL THE SCIENTISTS?

CAPTAIN PICARD, I HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH PLASMA CONTAINMENT AND I THOUGHT-

ACTUALLY, I'M SURPRISED THAT MORE OF YOUR SCIENTISTS AREN'T HERE TO OBSERVE OUR TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION.

WELL...THEY...ARE STILL RECOVERING FROM THE EFFECTS OF HYPERSLEEP. I'M SURE YOU UNDER-STAND, CAPTAIN.

BEEE

MEANWHILE, ON THE ENTERPRISE, PICARD'S OFFICERS AWAIT HIS RETURN.

I'VE DETECTED A PARTICLE TRAIL FROM A SHIP THAT LANDED ON THIS PLANET.

THE KATAANIAN SHIP?

NO. A DIFFERENT SHIP.

IT'S STILL THERE?

THAT'S JUST IT... I CAN'T DETECT THE SHIP, BUT THE PARTICLE TRAIL IS CLEAR. THERE WAS A LANDING BUT NO SUBSEQUENT TAKEOFF.

THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE, COMMANDER. I'M GETTING A HIGH LEVEL OF ENERGY USE FROM THE KATAAN COMPOUND, NOTHING YOU'D EXPECT FROM STANDARD LIVING QUARTERS.

I'LL INFORM THE CAPTAIN.

BEEP

CAPTAIN, ARE YOU IN THE KATAANIAN COMPOUND?

YES, NUMBER ONE. WHY?

CAPTAIN, SOMETHING'S GOING ON DOWN THERE AND I DON'T LIKE IT-

-I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU RETURN TO THE SHIP IMMEDIATELY AND LET ME SEND AN AWAY TEAM.

NONSENSE - I'M DOING FINE HERE. WE'RE SENDING UP A SAMPLE OF DURILIUM. I WANT TO KNOW WHY IT SO RAPIDLY DE-STABILIZED

UNDERSTOOD. RIKER OUT.

HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN YOUR COMPOUND'S EXTREMELY HIGH ENERGY USE THAT MY SHIP IS DETECTING?

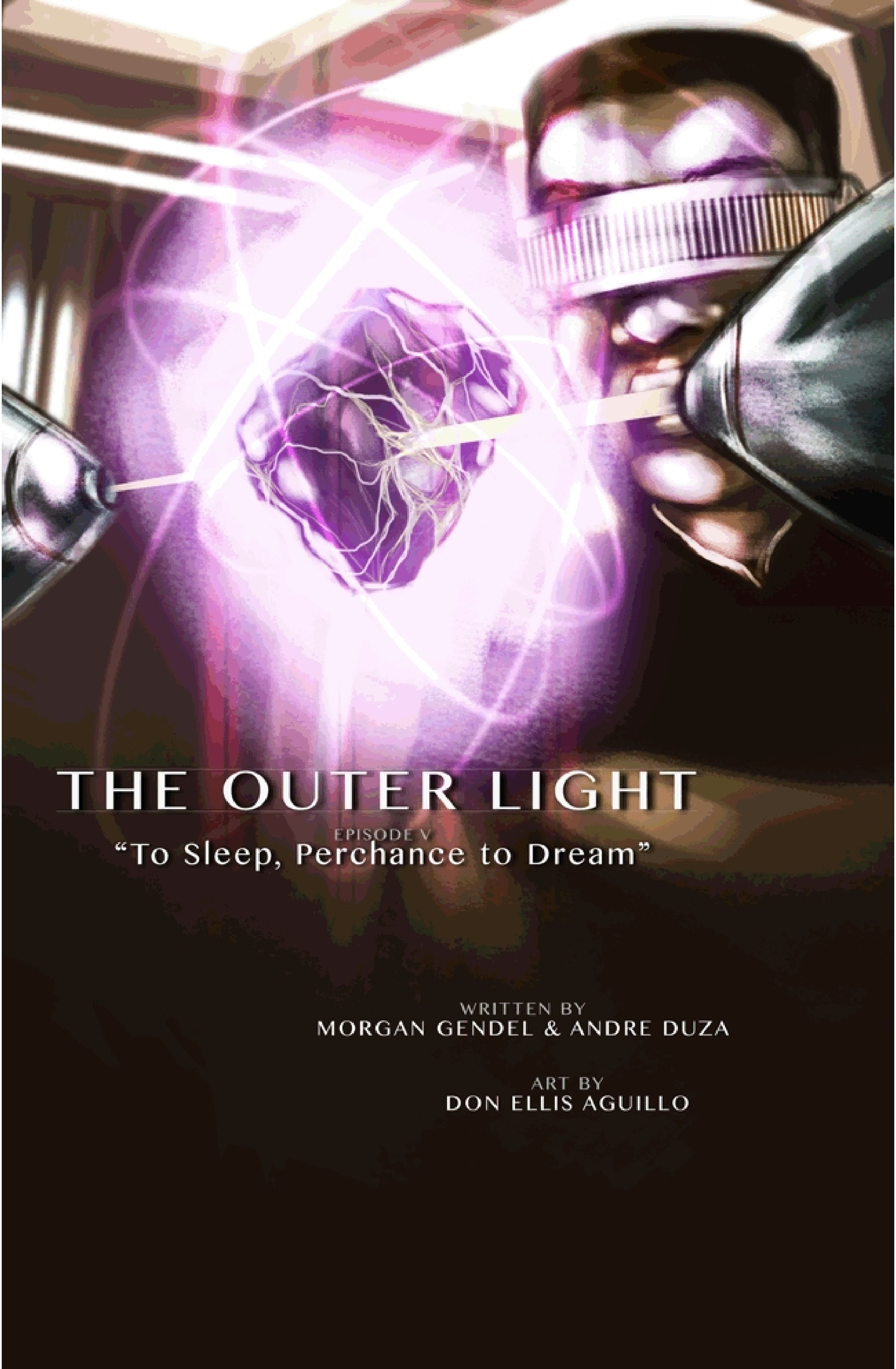
AS LUMIEN EXPLAINED - RECOVERY FROM HYPERSLEEP MEANS A CONCENTRATION OF ACTIVITY - EATING, WORKING.

ELINE... THERE ARE THINGS THAT I KNOW MAKE NO SENSE TO YOU.

CAPTAIN -JEAN-LUC- OUR SCIENCE CREATED A TEMPLATE FOR THE **NUCLEONIC MIND-DREAM-**

-SO THE BLANKS YOUR MIND FILLED IN - THEY WERE BASED ON MY ACTUAL CONSCIOUSNESS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING?

TO BE CONTINUED...


THE OUTER LIGHT
EPISODE V
"To Sleep, Perchance to Dream"
WRITTEN BY
MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA
ART BY
DON ELLIS AGUILLO

SOMETHING HAS DE-STABILIZED THE PLANET'S DURILLIUM.

IT'S UP TO GEORDI TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS - AND NOW HE THINKS HE KNOWS...

GAMMA PARTICLES. LIKE YOU'D FIND WHERE A GAMMA-LASER IS IN USE.

AS IN, TO MINE THE DURILLIUM?"

BUT THAT METHOD OF MINING DURILLIUM IS ANTIQUATED.

FOR US. NOT FOR MAREK'S TECHNICIANS-

-OR FOR THE KATAAN SCIENTISTS.

BEEP

I'LL TAKE THIS IN MY PRIVATE QUARTERS.

YES, NUMBER ONE.

CAPTAIN, WE'VE FOUND OUT WHY THE DURILLIUM IS SO UNSTABLE...

LATER...

GOVERNOR MAREK, THE ENTERPRISE HAS DETECTED THE PRESENCE OF ANOTHER SHIP AND USE OF A GAMMA-PARTICLE LASER

WHAT ARE YOU ACCUSING ME OF?"

I'M NOT ACCUSING. I'M DEMANDING. TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

I HAVE NO IDEA.

NO. I GUESS NOT.

MY SECOND-IN-COMMAND HAS URGED ME TO RETURN TO MY SHIP. I THINK HE'S RIGHT.

NO SIGN OF ELINE. AND WHERE ARE ALL THE KATAAN SCIENTISTS?
SOMETHING STRANGE GOING ON HERE...
SOMETHING STRANGE INDEED PICARD MAKES A U-TURN...
...OPERATING ON INSTINCTS - OR MAYBE FEAR OF WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO DISCOVER.

TO BE CONTINUED..

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE VI

"A Cloaking of Many Colors"

WRITTEN BY

MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY

DON ELLIS AGUILLO

CAPTAIN - WE'RE STANDING BY TO BEAM YOU UP.

YOU THINK YOU KNOW US. BUT ALL YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT KATAAN IS WHAT WE PUT IN YOUR HEAD

BELAY THAT ORDER, NUMBER ONE. THERE'S BEEN ... A DELAY.

CLICK

WAKE HER UP.

I DON'T THINK YOU WANT TO DO THAT. DID THAT NUMBER ONE OF YOURS TRY TO WAKE YOU FROM THE MIND-LINK?

YES.

THE GOVERNOR ASKED YOU TO STABILIZE THE DURILLIUM - SO WE CAN REPLICATE REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR OUR SHIP

THAT SHOULD BE YOUR ONLY CONCERN.

BEEEEEEPBEEEEEPBEEEEEPBEEEEEP

THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE ALL BECOME? *ADDICTS?*

JEAN-LUC, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK.

THEN WHAT IS IT?!

LATER, IN A DESERTED SECTOR NOT FAR FROM THE DURILLIUM MINES...

WHY IS THIS *HAPPENING*?! THIS WASN'T IN THE *PLAN*!

WOOOOOOSH

CLACK!

A ROMULAN WARBIRD DE-CLOAKS!

I.. I DIDN'T MEAN TO..

WEAKLING. YOU FAILED TO PROPERLY OPERATE OUR GAMMA LASER TO REFINE THE DURILLIUM WE NEED

BUT NOW THAT THE ENTERPRISE IS HERE...

..THE PLAN HAS CHANGED.

TO BE CONTINUED..

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE VII

"Change of Plans"

WRITTEN BY

MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY

DON ELLIS AGUILLO

A MYSTERY TO BE UNRAVELED – THE TRAIL OF ANOTHER VESSEL PIERCING THE PLANET'S ORBIT, YET NO SIGN OF A SHIP.

ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS?

THE CIVILIZATIONS THAT USED GAMMA-LASER DRILLING FOR MINING MAINTAINED IT MOSTLY AS A FORM OF WEAPONRY. MAREK'S CULTURE HAS NO SUCH WEAPONS.

BUT YOU SAID A SHIP HAD LANDED THERE EARLIER...

THE COMPUTER'S FINISHED CROSS-REFERENCING SPECIES THAT USE GAMMA-LASER WEAPONS WITH KNOWN TRAVEL THROUGH THIS SECTOR.

ONE SPECIES IN PARTICULAR ROUSES GREAT CONCERN.

A VISITOR, SUMMONED BACK TO THIS PLACE BY THE WEIGHT OF AN EARLIER REVELATION.

KATAAN, A ONCE-PROUD CIVILIZATION. BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO CHANGE THESE SURVIVORS?

PLEASE, JEAN-LUC. I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU MUST FEEL. BUT DON'T DO THIS.

HOW CAN YOU DO THIS TO YOURSELF?

YOUR CIVILIZATION THRIVED, JEAN-LUC.

MINE DIDN'T.

NO WORDS FROM PICARD. THE EMOTIONS OF THE STARSHIP CAPTAIN AND THE IRON WEAVER STRUGGLE...

... AND KAMIN WINS OUT.

THE RAIN ADHERES TO A STRANGE ETHEREAL SHAPE, INVISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE.

PICARD IS A PROBLEM. HE'S BEEN ASKING A LOT OF QUESTIONS. YOU CAN SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR PRECIOUS DURILLIUM IF HE FINDS OUT YOU'RE HERE TO STEAL IT.

YOU LACK IMAGINATION LUMIEN. NO WONDER YOUR PLANET WAS DOOMED

WE DON'T CARE ABOUT DURILLIUM. THAT WAS JUST TO HELP US REPLICATE NEW WEAPONS."

BUT NOW WE CAN TAKE ALL THE WEAPONS WE NEED FROM THE ENTERPRISE-

- BY FORCE.

YOU MUST BE JOKING.

ROMULANS NEVER JOKE!

NOW - WILL YOU DO AS WE SAY?

YES.

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE VIII

"A Dream Turned Nightmare"

WRITTEN BY
MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY
DON ELLIS AGUILLO

DAWN ON A TUMULTUOUS PLANET. CAPTAIN JEAN-LUC PICARD STANDS ALONE WITH HIS THOUGHTS.

SIR. COMMANDER RIKER HAS ASKED US TO ESCORT YOU BACK TO THE SHIP.

YES, OF COURSE-

-BUT I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF SOMETHING FIRST.

DAMAGE
VITAL FUNCTIONS
SUBJECT: ELAINE

OH, JEAN-LUC.
I WISH IT WERE
THAT SIMPLE.

NO... COME AWAY
WITH ME. ON THE
ENTERPRISE-

I CAN'T
RIGHT NOW.

... COME
WITH ME.

I WANT
YOU TO...

...AND... LUMIEN,
TOO, OF COURSE.

IT'S TRUE FOR ALL OF US, JEAN-LUC. THE EFFECTS OF 1,000 YEARS OF HYPERSLEEP.

WE'RE DYING.

WE'LL HAVE THE ENTER-PRISE PHYSICIANS CHECK YOU OUT. I'M SURE-

SIR. SOMETHING YOU NEED TO SEE.

I TOLD YOU I WAS BUSY.

THE GREAT CAPTAIN PICARD.

HOW IS THAT SHIP OF YOURS? THE ENTERPRISE?

BEING ON THIS PLANET PUTS YOU IN VIOLATION OF TREATY.

LOCK THEM UP.

IT IS I WHO WILL GIVE THE ORDERS.

HAVE YOUR PEOPLE HOLSTER THEIR PHASERS UNLESS YOU WANT TO SEE THIS WHOLE PLANET DESTROYED

YOU DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF FIREPOWER.

OUR LIFE-FUNCTIONS ARE LINKED TO A HIGH ENERGY DETONATOR HIDDEN IN THE DURILIUM. IF EITHER OF US IS SO MUCH AS SCRATCHED-

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

CONTROL OF THE ENTERPRISE...

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE IX

"The Lives of Others"

WRITTEN BY

MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY

DON ELLIS AGUILLO

WE TRIED USING THEIR SMARTEST SCIENTISTS TO OBTAIN ENOUGH DURILLIUM FOR US TO REPLICATE NEW WEAPONS FOR OUR SHIP-

-BUT TAKING THE ENTERPRISE'S PHOTON TORPEDO GENERATOR IS SO MUCH EASIER.

THIS WON'T WORK, YOU KNOW. EVEN THE ROMULANS DO NOT TOLERATE ROGUES IN THEIR MIDST.

BEEP

YES, NUMBER ONE.

CAPTAIN, STILL SEARCHING FOR THE ROMULAN DETONATOR. THE PROBLEM IS, THE DURILLIUM MASKS OUR SCANS.

I THINK I KNOW HOW TO FIND IT, NUMBER ONE. IN FACT, THE ANSWER IS SITTING RIGHT HERE.

FUNNY THAT THE ROMULANS MANAGED THIS. THEY WOULD HAVE HAD TO RELY ON SOMEONE WHO COULD PLACE THEIR DETONATOR AMID THE RICHEST DURILLIUM DEPOSIT.

WHY?! WHY DO THIS IF YOU'RE DYING ANYWAY?

DON'T YOU GET IT? OUR PROBE SEARCHED FOR SOMEONE MY WIFE ENVISIONED IN HER NUCLEONIC DREAM.

SHE CREATED YOU – THEN HERE YOU ARE!

THIS NUCLEONIC BEAM. IT EXISTED IN THE PROBE, AS WELL AS IN THOSE UNITS ELINE AND THE OTHERS USE...

DESTROYING THEM WON'T HELP YOU, PICARD

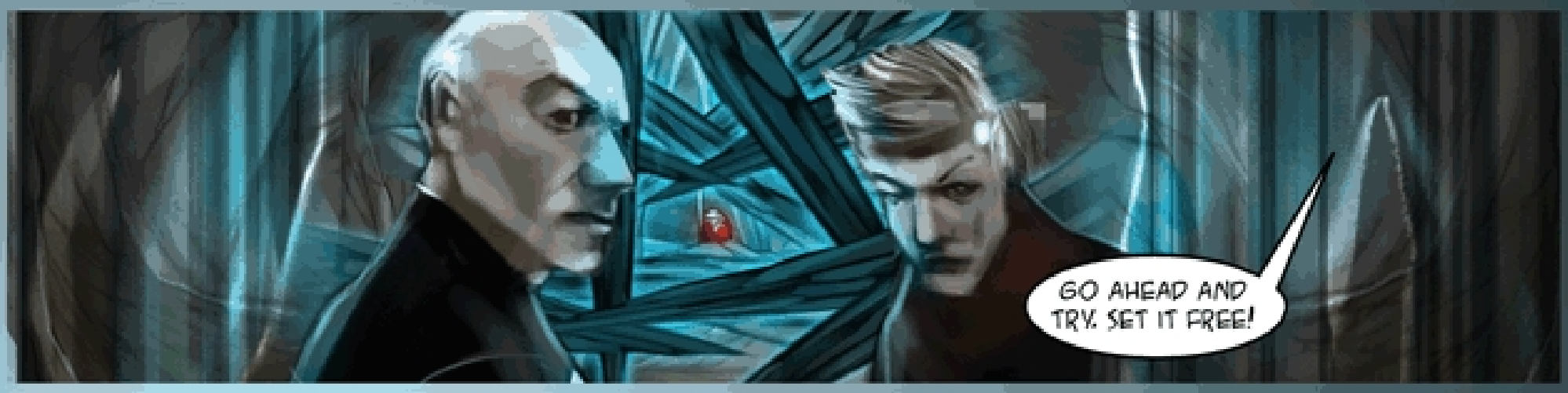
NO.

BUT PERHAPS SOMETHING I LEARNED AS KAMIN CAN HELP ME DEAL WITH THE BOMB YOU PLANTED

SHOW ME WHERE IT IS.

WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

HERE.
IMBEDDED IN THE RAW DURILLIUM. VERY DIFFICULT TO REMOVE...


GO AHEAD AND TRY. SET IT FREE!

THE GREAT CAPTAIN PICARD! YOU KNOW WHY YOU ARE SO EASY TO DEFEAT?

BECAUSE YOU CARE SO MUCH ABOUT THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

NOW COME WITH US.

WHERE?

WHERE ELSE? TO THE ENTERPRISE.

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE X

"Endgame Part I"

WRITTEN BY

MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY

DON ELLIS AGUILLO

THE MIGHTY ENTERPRISE-

-A CHANGED SHIP UNDER ROMULAN CONTROL...

ITS CAPTAIN, POWERLESS TO FIGHT BACK.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR MODIFICATIONS, PICARD? I'M SURE YOU WILL AGREE THIS IS A MUCH LIVELIER USE OF SUCH A FINE VESSEL.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, CAPTAIN? KARDASIAN LAVA BEAST GOT YOUR TONGUE?

BUT ALL IS NOT AS IT SEEMS...

HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

AS LONG AS WE MAINTAIN THE NUCLEONIC DREAM, THEIR VITALS SIGNS WILL REMAIN STABLE. THE DREAM ITSELF IS A SUBJECTIVE EXPERIENCE THAT CAN GO ON FOR A LIFETIME.

AS YOU WELL KNOW, CAPTAIN.

BEEEEP?BEEEEP?BEEEEP?BEEEEP?

YES, NUMBER ONE.

CAPTAIN, ARE YOU READY ON YOUR END?

WE ARE NUMBER ONE. HAVE YOU LOCKED ONTO THE COORDINATES?

YES SIR. READY TO PROCEED AT YOUR COMMAND.

ENERGIZE.

WHAT ABOUT THEM?

YOU CAN DISCONNECT THE BEAM IN A FEW HOURS. I WILL ALERT ROMULAN HIGH COMMAND

THANK YOU, CAPTAIN PICARD

LATER...

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, GOVERNOR MAREK. MY SECURITY TEAM HAS ALREADY PUT THE ROMULAN CREW ON A SHUTTLE BACK TO THEIR SECTOR.

AND YOUR DURILLIUM SHOULD BE STABLE, NOW THAT THE GAMMA LASER DRILLING HAS CEASED

AND I SEE YOU'RE DE-FANGING THE ROMULAN SHIP

YES. WHEN THE COMMANDER AND HIS NUMBER ONE AWAKEN FROM THEIR NUCLEONIC DREAM, THEY WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE THIS PLANET.

CAPTAIN. MY TEAM HAS FINISHED REMOVING ALL WEAPONRY FROM THE ROMULAN SHIP. COMMANDER RIKER HAS SUGGESTED WE BEAM UP TOGETHER.

YES, HE WANTS ME OFF THIS PLANET.

BUT I'M NOT QUITE READY TO LEAVE.

TO BE CONTINUED..

THE OUTER LIGHT

EPISODE XI

"Endgame Part II"

WRITTEN BY

MORGAN GENDEL & ANDRE DUZA

ART BY

DON ELLIS AGUILLO

GOODBYES NEED TO BE SAID -

-BUT NOT IN THE WAY CAPTAIN PICARD MIGHT HOPE...

NO! I THOUGHT THERE'D BE TIME...

NOT FOR ME.

ELIAS!

ELINE...

DID YOU... GET WHAT... I ASKED?

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED THE MUSIC OF THAT FLUTE. THAT'S WHY I WILLED YOU TO PLAY IT.

PLEASE...

FOR ME...

ONE LAST TIME...

I WON'T LOSE YOU TWICE.
NO. YOU WON'T...

BUT A CAPTAIN'S PLACE IS ON HIS SHIP, AND SO...

CAPTAIN, WE'RE PREPARED TO LEAVE ORBIT.

PICARD IS ONCE AGAIN ALONE WITH HIS MEMORIES.

DINGGGGG

COME.

ELINE GAVE THIS TO GEORDI. SHE WANTED YOU TO HAVE IT, BUT ONLY AFTER WE HAD LEFT ORBIT.

THANK YOU, NUMBER ONE.

TIME FOR BED ALMOST...

DID YOU LIKE THAT?

ALWAYS. NOW COME TO BED, MY LOVE.

AT LAST, A WARM, ABIDING LOVE. BUT AS WE SAID, ALL IS NOT AS IT SEEMS...

HAPPINESS AT LAST? PERHAPS. BUT ONLY AT NIGHT, WHEN PICARD IS ALONE...

...WITH ELINE'S FINAL GIFT.

AND MAYBE THAT'S ENOUGH.

THE END